

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/678,345

Examiner

Pho M. Luu

Applicant(s)

GONZALEZ ET AL.

Art Unit

2824

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 08/02/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 03/25/05; 06/15/05; 8/2/05 PL
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Search History.

ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action acknowledges receipt of the following items from the Applicant:
The Specification, Claims, Abstract, Drawing and Oath or Declaration filed on 03 October 2003.
2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's Preliminary Amendment filed 02 August 2005. The changes and remarks disclosed therein were considered.
3. Claims 13-28 are newly added.
4. Claims 1-28 are pending in the application.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form PTO-1449, filed 25 March 2005. The information disclosed therein was considered.

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form PTO-1449, filed 16 June 2005. The information disclosed therein was considered.

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Form PTO-1449, filed 02 August 2005. The information disclosed therein was considered.

Allowance

6. Claims 1-28 is allowance.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

There is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art to: "copying uncorrected data units of the first block into the second block thereby to consolidate in the second block corrected and uncorrected units of data originally of the first block of a method of operating a flash memory cell array" as claimed in claims 1-6; or

"utilizing the stored information, correcting any errors in the data read from the at least one location in the array and writing the corrected data into the array of a method of operating a flash memory cell array" as claimed in claims 7-8; or

"the corrected data remain stored, programming or reading other data to or from at least locations within the array other than at least one location and thereafter writing to corrected data into the array a method of operating a flash memory cell array" as claimed in claims 9-10; or

"determining that the errors in the read data can not be corrected, re-reading the data stored in the at least one page with a second set of read conditions a method of operating an erasable and re-programmable non-volatile memory system" as claimed in claims 11-12; or

"data read without errors form other unit of the first group of memory cells are copy into unit of the second group of memory cells other than its at least one unit, thereby to consolidate in the second block data read without errors and recovered data originally of the first block of a method of operation group of re-programmable non-volatile memory cells" as claimed in claims 13-22 and 23-28.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8 The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Conley et al (US. 6,426,893) disclosed the multiple sectors of user data are stored at one time by alternately streaming chunks of data from the sector to multiple memory blocks.

Conley et al (US. 6,760,255) disclosed the flash eeprom system with simultaneous multiple data sector programming and storage of physical block in memory device.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Pho M. Luu whose telephone number is 571.272.1876. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM – 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Richard Elms, can be reached on 571.272.1869. The official fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703.872.9306 for all official communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PML
17 September 2005



ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER